

Patent
10/767,782

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 23-41, 44 and 46-63 remain pending in the application.

Claims 44, 46, 47, 49, 60 and 63 have been canceled.

Claims 50-53 have been amended.

Claims 1, 48, 50, 55 and 61 are independent.

First, Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication that Claims 1-21, 23-41, 48, 55-59, 61 and 62 are allowable and that Claims 50 and 52-54 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten to address the Section 112, second paragraph rejection. The issue raised therein has been addressed in the foregoing amendments to Claim 50 (which has been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of Claims 44 and 49, and addresses the Section 112, second paragraph rejection). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph rejection are requested.

Claims 44, 46, 47, 49, 51, 60 and 63 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent 5,624,392 (Saab). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

However, in order to place the application in condition for allowance, Claims 44, 46, 47, 49, 60 and 63 have been canceled, and Claim 51 has been amended to depend from Claim 50, indicated as containing allowable subject matter, and now rewritten in independent form.

Claims 51-52 have been amended to depend from Claim 50, and Claim 54 depends from Claim 48 (indicated as being allowable).

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now clearly in condition for allowance and prompt review and issuance is accordingly requested. Should the Examiner be of the view that an interview would expedite consideration of this Amendment or of the application at large, request is made that the Examiner telephone the Applicants' undersigned attorney at (908) 518-7700 in order that any outstanding issues may be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,


Karin L. Williams; Registration No 36,721

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Please Continue to Send All Correspondence to:

Attorney for Applicant
Mayer & Williams PC
251 North Avenue West, 2nd Floor
Westfield, NJ 07090
(908) 518-7700 x2 Tel.
(908) 518-7795 Fax